Standard Operating Procedure

Lithium Triethylborohydride

*This is an SOP template and is not complete until: 1) lab specific information is entered into the box below 2) lab specific protocol/procedure is added to the protocol/procedure section and   
3) SOP has been signed and dated by the PI and relevant lab personnel.*

Print a copy and insert into your   
*Laboratory Safety Manual* and *Chemical Hygiene Plan*.   
Refer to instructions for assistance.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Department:** | Click here to enter text. |
| **Date SOP was written:** | Click here to enter a date. |
| **Date SOP was approved by PI/lab supervisor:** | Click here to enter a date. |
| **Principal Investigator:** | Click here to enter text. |
| **Internal Lab Safety Coordinator/Lab Manager:** | Click here to enter text. |
| **Lab Phone:** | Click here to enter text. |
| **Office Phone:** | Click here to enter text. |
| **Emergency Contact:** | Click here to enter text. |
| *(Name and Phone Number)* |
| **Location(s) covered by this SOP:** | Click here to enter text. |
| *(Building/Room Number)* |

**Type of SOP:** ☐ Process ☒Hazardous Chemical ☐ Hazardous Class

**Purpose**

Lithium triethylborohydride (also known as Superhydride) is a strong reducing agent and a highly flammable chemical. Contact with water releases flammable gases which may ignite spontaneously. It is harmful if ingested, inhaled, or absorbed through the skin. It can cause burns to the respiratory tract, digestive tract, skin, and eyes. Lithium triethylborohydride is commonly used in inorganic and organic chemistry for the reduction of aldehydes, ketones, acid anhydrides, acid chlorides, tertiary amides, and esters to alcohols. It is usually purchased as a 1.0 M solution with tetrahydrofuran (THF).

**Physical & Chemical Properties/Definition of Chemical Group**

CAS#: 22560-16-3

Class: **Highly flammable, water reactive, corrosive**

Molecular Formula: C6H16BLi

Form (physical state): Liquid

Color: Colorless

Boiling point: N/A

**Potential Hazards/Toxicity**

Lithium triethylborohydride is a highly flammable liquid and vapor. Contact with water releases flammable gases which may ignite spontaneously. Vapors may form an explosive mixture with air. Handle under inert gas and protect from moisture. It is harmful if ingested or absorbed through the skin and may be harmful if inhaled. It is extremely destructive to the tissue of the mucous membranes and upper respiratory tract. Vapors may cause drowsiness and dizziness. Causes digestive, respiratory tract, skin, and eye burns. Symptoms of exposure include spasm, inflammation and edema of the larynx and bronchi, pneumonitis, pulmonary edema, burning sensation, coughing, wheezing, laryngitis, shortness of breath, headache, nausea, abdominal pain, inflammation of the gums and mouth, central nervous system effects, unconsciousness, coma, and death. Prolonged exposure may cause liver and kidney damage.

**Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)**

**Respirator Protection**

Use a full-face respirator with multi-purpose combination (US) respirator cartridges.

Respirators should be used only under any of the following circumstances:

* As a last line of defense (i.e., after engineering and administrative controls have been exhausted).
* When Permissible Exposure Limit (PEL) has exceeded or when there is a possibility that PEL will be exceeded.
* Regulations require the use of a respirator.
* An employer requires the use of a respirator.
* There is potential for harmful exposure due to an atmospheric contaminant (in the absence of PEL)
* As PPE in the event of a chemical spill clean-up process

Lab personnel intending to use/wear a respirator mask must be trained and fit-tested by ORS and should contact occhealt@uga.edu. This is a UGA requirement described in more detail in the [UGA Respiratory Protection Plan](https://esd.uga.edu/sites/default/files/respiratoryprotection.pdf) and supported by the [Office of Research Occupational Health and Safety Program](https://research.uga.edu/ohsp/).

**Hand Protection**

Handle with gloves. Nitrile gloves are recommended.

NOTE: Consult with your preferred glove manufacturer to ensure that the gloves you plan on using are compatible with lithium triethylborohydride.

Refer to glove selection chart from the links below:

<http://www.ansellpro.com/download/Ansell_8thEditionChemicalResistanceGuide.pdf>

OR

<http://www.allsafetyproducts.biz/page/74172>

OR

<http://www.showabestglove.com/site/default.aspx>

OR

<http://www.mapaglove.com/>

**Eye Protection**

ANSI approved, tight-fitting safety glasses/goggles. Face shields are recommended.

**Skin and Body Protection**

Flame-resistant lab coat preferably made of anti-static material, long pants, and closed-toe shoes.

**Hygiene Measures**

Avoid contact with skin, eyes and clothing. Wash hands before breaks and immediately after handling the product.

**Engineering Controls**

Lithium triethylborohydride should be used in a glove box or in a closed system in a certified chemical fume hood.

**First Aid Procedures**

**If inhaled**

Move person into fresh air. If not breathing, give artificial respiration. If breathing is difficult, give oxygen. Consult a physician.

**In case of skin contact**

Wash off with soap and plenty of water for at least 15 minutes while removing contaminated clothing. Consult a physician.

**In case of eye contact**

Flush eyes with plenty of water for at least 15 minutes lifting upper and lower eyelids and removing contact lenses. Consult a physician. Continue rinsing eyes during transport to hospital.

**If swallowed**

Do not induce vomiting. Never give anything by mouth to an unconscious person. If conscious and alert, rinse mouth with water and drink 2-4 cupful of milk or water. Consult a physician.

**Special Handling and Storage Requirements**

**Precautions for safe handling:** Avoid contact with skin, eyes, and clothing. Avoid inhalation and ingestion. Use spark-proof tools and explosion-proof equipment. Provide adequate exhaust ventilation. Keep away from heat and sources of ignition- No smoking. Prevent the build-up of electrostatic charge.

**Conditions for safe storage:** Keep container tightly closed in a cool, dry, and well-ventilated area. Opened containers must be carefully resealed and kept upright to prevent leakage. Never allow contact with water. Handle and store under inert gas. Dry residue is explosive. Store in flammables area. Incompatible with oxidizing agents, acids, and oxygen.

**Spill and Accident Procedure**

**Chemical Spill Dial 911**

**24-7 On-Call Response to Research, Environment, Health or Safety Concerns Dial 2-5561 from a campus phone or 706-542-5561 from a non-campus line.**

**Spill** – Follow the procedures set out in the [UGA Chemical and Laboratory Safety Manual.](http://research.uga.edu/docs/units/safety/manuals/Chemical-Laboratory-Safety-Manual.pdf)

[If there are any chemical-specific protocols for responding to a spill, insert them here or mark “none”:]

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# **Medical Emergency Dial 911**

**Life Threatening Emergency, After Hours, Weekends And Holidays** – Dial **911** or the emergency phone numbers listed at the beginning of the UGA Chemical and Laboratory Safety Manual

*Note: All incidents that result in an injury or property damage must be reported to ORS / ESD using a University Incident/Accident Report.*

**Non-Life Threatening Emergency** – Follow the instructions in the UGA Chemical and Laboratory Safety Manual.

*Note: All incidents that result in an injury or property damage must be reported to ORS / ESD using a University Incident/Accident Report.*

**Decontamination/Waste Disposal Procedure**

**For general hazardous waste disposal procedures, see Appendix H of the UGA Chemical and Laboratory Safety Manual.**

**Chemical Specific Procedures: [to be inserted or marked as “none”]**

Wearing proper PPE, absorb spill with inert material. Do not flush with water. Dispose of the used chemical and contaminated disposables as hazardous waste.

**Safety Data Sheet (SDS) Location**

UGA personnel can access Online SDS through a link in the upper left corner of the ESD home page (<https://esd.uga.edu>) and logging in by using their UGA email user name and password.

**Protocol/Procedure (Add lab specific Protocol/Procedure here)**

Click here to enter text.

**NOTE**

Any deviation from this SOP requires approval from PI.

**Documentation of Training** (signature of all users is required)

* Prior to conducting any work with lithium triethylborohydride, designated personnel must provide training to his/her laboratory personnel specific to the hazards involved in working with this substance, work area decontamination, and emergency procedures.
* The Principal Investigator must provide his/her laboratory personnel with a copy of this SOP and access to the SDS provided by the manufacturer.
* The Principal Investigator must ensure that his/her laboratory personnel have attended appropriate laboratory safety training or refresher training within the last 12 months.

**Principal Investigator SOP Approval**

Print name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Signature\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Approval Date:

I have read and understand the content of this SOP:

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| **Name** | **Signature** | **Date** |
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